

IN-LIBRARY BEHAVIOR POLICIES

Patron Behavior

The library strives to provide a COMFORTABLE, SAFE, AND WELCOMING environment in which patrons of all ages can enjoy and benefit from the resources offered. Patrons shall be engaged in activities associated with the use of a public library while in the building. Patrons not engaged in reading, studying, or using library materials shall be required to leave.

RULES OF CONDUCT

1. BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS. LOUD TALK, OFFENSIVE OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE OR COMMENTS OR DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR IS NOT ALLOWED.
2. NO RUNNING, PUSHING, HITTING, THROWING, OR PLAYING PHYSICAL GAMES
3. NO FOOD OR DRINK UNLESS IT IS DURING A LIBRARY ACTIVITY OR APPROVED BY STAFF.
4. ENTRY TO THE BUILDING MUST BE KEPT SAFE. BICYCLES MUST BE PLACED IN THE BICYCLE RACK.
5. NO LOITERING IN THE LANDSCAPING AROUND THE BUILDING
6. ANY OBJECT THAT IS DISPLAYED OR USED IN A MANNER APPEARING TO INTIMIDATE AND/OR CAUSE CONCERN, FEAR, OR HARM TO PATRONS OR STAFF IS NOT ALLOWED ON PREMISES
7. SMOKING OR OTHER TOBACCO USE (INCLUDING VAPING) IS NOT ALLOWED IN THE LIBRARY.

Patrons shall respect the rights of other patrons, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS and shall not harass, annoy, or intimidate others through noisy, boisterous, or threatening activities; or by behaving in any other manner which reasonably can be expected to disturb other persons.

Disruptive behavior is any action which infringes on the privileges of others using the library or which damages library property or violates our Rules of Conduct. In the case of children, parents are responsible for the behavior of their children in the library, whether or not the parents are present. LIBRARY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISING CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18 IN THE LIBRARY AND ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ACCESS TO AND USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES, INCLUDING THE INTERNET.

Process for Violating Rules of Conduct including Removal and Appeal:

- A warning will be issued when rules of conduct are violated and if behavior is not corrected they will be asked to leave the library that day. Parents will be contacted if under 18.
- Violations may result in suspension of Library privileges.

- Appeal requests may be made in writing to the Library Director.
- Further appeals may be made to the Library Board
- A final appeal may be made to the City Council of Whitewood

Unattended Children

The Whitewood Public Library welcomes children of all ages to use its facilities and services and strives to provide a safe and suitable environment for all library users. The library is a public building with staff trained to provide public library services to our patrons. The library is not a daycare for children of any age. WE ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN THE LIBRARY.

With the exception of library-planned programs and activities, the library staff is not responsible for supervising or tending to the needs of individual children or groups of children. The library staff will not assume responsibility for children's safety, comfort, or behavior.

Parents of any minor children should not leave them unattended for long periods at the library. Police will be notified concerning children left alone after closing time.